

SENATE RESOLUTION 23

By Southerland

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Gertrude Smith on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pay tribute to those citizens who are celebrating special occasions in their estimable lives; and

WHEREAS, Gertrude Smith celebrated her 100th birthday on March 9, 2007, a milestone that was commemorated as yet another precious souvenir of life's rich pageant; and

WHEREAS, one of the twin daughters of the late John and Malissa Brown, Gertrude Smith was born and raised on a farm in the Watertown community; and

WHEREAS, as part of a family of hardworking farmers, Mrs. Smith grew up helping raise crops for the family's necessities; in her early twenties during the Great Depression, she and a brother and sister moved to Ohio to work in factories, staying just over a year until the economy took a turn for the worse; and

WHEREAS, not long after she returned to Greene County from Ohio, Gertrude married Willie "Hoss" Smith, with whom she shared fifty-seven loving years of marriage before his death in 1990; she also lost her beloved twin sister, Melva, that year; and

WHEREAS, Hoss and Gertrude's union produced six children, Gary Smith, Alice Arrington, Evelyn Cansler, Lyle Smith, Wanda Baines, and Lynn Smith; ten grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild, Jayden Hooper, as well as another great-great-grandchild who will arrive into the family soon; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Smith is a highly respected member of the Aftow community, and she still lives on the same family farm that she and Mr. Smith bought after her mother-in-law passed away many years ago; and

WHEREAS, as Gertrude Smith approaches her eleventh decade, she is still a vibrant and independent personality, staying active as her health permits; and

WHEREAS, we wish to grasp this golden opportunity to specially recognize one of Tennessee's most outstanding citizens on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor and congratulate Gertrude Smith on the celebration of her 100th birthday and extend to her our best wishes for much continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.